

Australian Immigration and Trade Services

# Instructions to apply for an eVisitor Visa (Business) for Australia

An eVisitor Visa (Business) permits short term visits to Australia for up to 3 months to engage in a business visitor activity.

Acceptable business visitor activities on an eVisitor Visa (Business) include making general business or employment enquiries (excluding working for an Australian organisation as part of investigating a business opportunity); investigating, negotiating, signing or reviewing a business contract; activities carried out as part of an official government-to-government visit; participating in conferences, trade fairs or seminars as long as you are not being paid by the organisers for your participation.

Holders of an eVisitor (Business) are not allowed to work in Australia. Should you seek to undertake short-term, highly specialized work in Australia, please contact our office for further instructions.

### eVisitor Visa (Business) holders are generally permitted to:

- travel to, and enter Australia on multiple occasions for 12 months from date of grant;
- remain in Australia for a period not exceeding 3 months from each date of entry into Australia; and
- study for up to 3 months in Australia.

Should your eVisitor Visa – Business Visitor stream be approved, you will receive written notification of visa grant from Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs). The visa validity and stay period granted to you will be determined by Home Affairs at time of decision and cannot be amended once the visa is granted. In some circumstances, you may be granted a single entry only, or the visa validity and stay period granted may be different from what you requested in your visa application.

You must be outside of Australia when your application for an eVisitor Visa (Business) is lodged and decided.

An eVisitor Visa (Business) is designed specifically for European Union nationals who are ineligible to apply for an ETA (Business). Holders of the following passports may apply for an eVisitor Visa (Business) via our office:

Bulgaria Estonia Poland Croatia Hungary Romania Cyprus Latvia Slovak Republic Czech Republic Lithuania Slovenia

#### How to apply for an eVisitor Visa (Business)

Please send the following documents to AITS, Postfach, CH-3800 Interlaken:

- 1. Completed and signed "Application for a Visitor visa Business Visitor stream" (Form 1415)
- 2. Completed and signed "Advice by a migration agent" (Form 956) Complete Q14 and sign declaration at Q24

3. Proof of payment: Payment of the standard service fee of CHF 200.- per application may be made in cash or at your local Swiss Post office or by ebanking to PostFinance account 60-357890-1, IBAN CH41 0900 0000 6035 7890 1 in favour of AITS clients' account, CH-3852 Ringgenberg BE. Proof of payment (Empfangsschein/ Récépissé/ Ricevuta) or e-banking debit receipt (Zahlungsbestätigung/ attestation de paiement/ conferma de pagamento) must be provided with your application

4. Photocopy of your passport page(s) showing identity, validity, date and place of issue. Your passport must be valid for the length of your intended stay in Australia. If you hold another passport, provide a copy of your other passport page(s) showing identity, validity, date and place of issue



**5. Photocopy of your valid residency permit (e.g. Swiss residency permit B/C)** valid for at least 3 months after your scheduled return from Australia. Should you hold a residency permit that will expire (ie. Swiss Residency Permit B), please provide a letter from the relevant authorities confirming your eligibility to apply for a further residency permit

#### 6. Evidence of proposed activities in Australia:

-a letter of support from your current employer in your home country confirming your current position/occupation and duration of employment, the reasons for your visit to Australia, your duties/tasks/goals whilst in Australia, the proposed duration of your stay in Australia, and whether you may be required to return to Australia to carry out further business visitor activities in the next 12 months. Your employer should confirm that all costs associated with your visit/s to Australia are covered by the employer or alternative;

- a letter of invitation from Australian based entity/customer confirming nature of relationship with applicant/applicant's employer, reasons for visit to Australian based entity/customer; an itinerary of proposed visit/s with contact details of Australian business parties;

- a letter of invitation from host organisation in Australia confirming conference registration details;
- your (monthly) payslips for previous 3 months and/or employment contract confirming current employment status/conditions;

- evidence of overseas health insurance (world-wide)

7. Evidence that your business background is relevant to the nature of your proposed business in Australia. Evidence of your educational qualifications, membership of professional associations, evidence of your current or previous employment position/s, details of any previous contacts with Australian business persons or organisations, evidence of active business operations in your home country

8. Evidence of sufficient funds to cover your proposed visit to Australia. Your recent bank account statement or confirmation that all costs will be covered by your employer in your home country or host organisation in Australia

**9.** An envelope with your name, address and a postage stamp for the return of your notification of visa decision

## Additional documentation may be required in the following circumstances:

• **Character testing / Biometric/ Health testing with a panel doctor** may be required. Should the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs) require you to complete character testing / biometric / health testing, we shall provide you with further instructions on how to proceed. It may take longer to finalise visa applications where character/biometric/health testing is required and an additional service fee will apply.

• **Genuine Visitor Requirement** Home Affairs will assess the individual circumstances of your visa application to determine whether the purpose, duration and proposed activities in Australia are reasonable and consistent with "business visitor activities". Home Affairs will also assess whether you hold or have access to adequate funds for your intended vacation. Should you require our assistance to prepare satisfactory and consistent supporting documents/statement, an additional service fee will apply. If Home Affairs request additional documents and/or in the event of non-routine processing by Home Affairs, an additional service fee will apply. Please note that it may take longer to finalize visa applications where additional information is required.

Home Affairs's global visa processing times indicates that 90% of eVisitor Visa (Business) applications are finalized within one month of receipt of a complete eVisa application by HomeAffairs.

Actual processing times of your application may vary depending on a rage of factors including whether your application is complete, checking by external parties if required (health, character, national security), how promptly you submit additional information (if requested), surges in demand and peak periods . Please apply well before your proposed travel date. You should not finalise your flight arrangements until your visa has been approved.

An eVisitor Visa (Business) will be linked electronically to the passport you provide with your application. You must use the same passport to travel to Australia.

Should your eVisitor Visa (Business) application be approved by HomeAffairs, you will receive a written notification of grant from our office. We incur no liability for financial loss or otherwise if eVisitor Visa (Business) processing is delayed or your visa application is refused.

Please visit our website, <u>www.aits.ch</u>, for our Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. Your use of our website or payment of the standard service fee for AITS service/s will mean you accept the Terms of Service, which together with our Privacy Policy govern AITS's relationship with you. By using our website or paying the standard service fee, you are confirming that you understand and agree to these Terms of Service and have engaged the services of AITS. Links to the Consumer Guide of the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (OMARA) are also available on the website. You acknowledge that you have had access to and the opportunity to read the Consumer Guide prior to making any payment to AITS.